



Valley Elementary School

135 Coburn Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 ☎ Tel: (978) 528-7843 | www.valleycollaborative.org

Parent Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting Minutes

2/9/24, 12:00PM

Via Zoom

Contact Bryan Thomas (bthomas@valleycollaborative.org) for more information or to join the group.

Minutes:

- Introductions & Welcome
- Review the Vision of PAG / Meeting Guidelines (included below)
- Wants and needs for parents/guardians:
 - Ideas for more family events:
 - March: Read Across America Week
 - Bryan will put together a plan where parents can volunteer to read to classes in person or via zoom for Read Across America Week
 - Career Day with Parents
 - Follow up on clubs:
 - Talked about the December chorus events
 - Group went to carol at a nursing home on 12/20
 - Singalong at school on 12/22
 - Soccer Club
 - Ran from december through February
 - Basketball Club
 - Will replace the soccer club after February break
 - Other Clubs
 - Students are working on developing new clubs like: Golf, Anime, Lego, Drawing.
- Revisited Class Dojo
 - The problem of too many emails from the class dojo company seems to have stemmed from the paid version offering more tiers and seeking engagement.
 - No issues with the standard version



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- Other Ideas and Discussion:
 - Event Ideas
 - Helicopter Visit - Maura H. has contact
 - Amy Vehicle visit
 - Police Dog
 - Student Connection and opportunities to meet out of school
 - Parent organized meet-ups (Bryan will follow up with how Valley can support)
 - Parents can connect through teachers or administration to share their information, if students are looking to connect with peers outside of school.
- Scheduling for the next meeting.
 - To be scheduled for late March or early April via Google Forms
 - Agenda Item: Plan Teacher Appreciation Week (May 6-10)



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Resources for Parents:

- Parent's Notice of Procedural Safeguards. <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/prb/>
- Guidance on Parent Advisory Councils: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/sped/pac/>
- Resources for parents
 - Massachusetts Association of Special Education Parent Advisory Council (MassPAC) <https://fcsn.org/masspac/>
 - Listing of SEPACs: Special Child Mass Website <https://www.spedchildmass.com/special-education-sepac-massachusetts/>
 - Federation for Children with Special Needs: Free Workshops: <https://fcsn.org/news/#calendar>
 - Training & Workshops for Parents & Families – Federation for Children with Special Needs: <https://fcsn.org/training-workshops-for-parents-families/>
- Review of Special Education Rights and Laws
 - <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ECSr7ulyV9T29OoBO1UnirkZ3--9gVtYglGi-Vz5icg/edit?usp=sharing>

Parent Advisory Group mission statement:

The Valley Collaborative Parent Advisory Group works to support all children and parents with special needs in our community. We are committed to: Promoting a platform for discussion for parents to share information, discuss common concerning matters, and interests among the population of students; Communicate with local, state and national organizations that support parents and children with special needs; Meet with our administrators and appropriate Valley Collaborative personnel as needed, to participate in discussions regarding education, health and safety our students; Promote communication among our families in all of our programs; Provide informational and educational forums to parents, students, and educator and all other professionals involved with children with special needs; Promote communication that encourages understanding, acceptance and inclusion of our students; Increase the involvement of parents of children with disabilities in district policy making and decision making; Recommend priorities to be addressed by the district in their annual and long term strategic plan.

Parent Advisory Group – Meeting Guidelines:

Valley collaborative parent advisory group meetings will be conducted with an administrator and officers using the following procedure: Meeting calendar and individual Minutes's and schedules will be set with parent advisory group parents and the administrator. Parent advisory group academic year calendar will be posted on- line to the Valley Collaborative website and sent home to parents. Minutes for each meeting will be posted on Valley Collaborative website one week prior that includes, time, location and content of meeting.